

## 2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

### Avery, North Carolina

#### Number of farms

495 farms in 2002, 535 farms in 1997, down 7 percent.

#### Land in farms

30,614 acres in 2002, 31,214 acres in 1997, down 2 percent.

#### Average size of farm

62 acres in 2002, 58 acres in 1997, up 7 percent.

#### Market Value of Production

\$27,877,000 in 2002, \$18,000,000 in 1997, up 55 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$27,531,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$346,000 of the total value in 2002.

#### Market Value of Production, average per farm

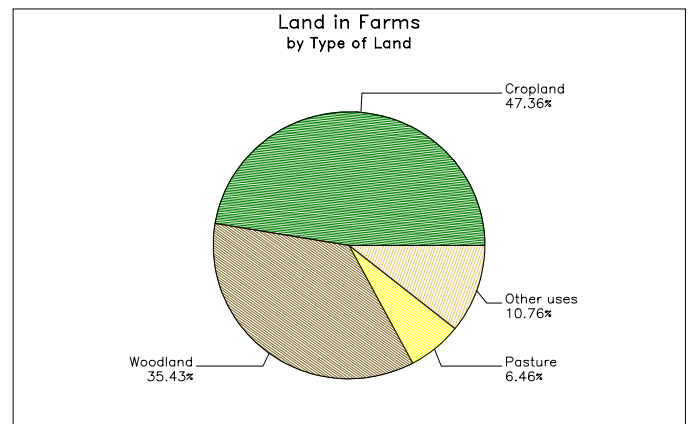
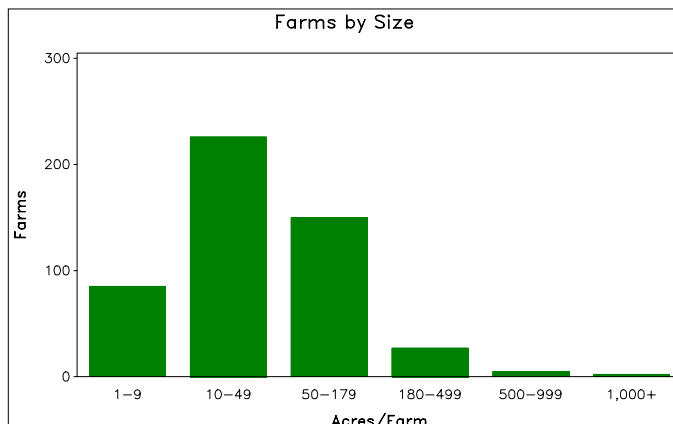
\$56,318 in 2002, \$33,646 in 1997, up 67 percent.

#### Government Payments

\$41,000 in 2002, \$46,000 in 1997, down 11 percent.

#### Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$1,520 in 2002, \$1,530 in 1997, down 1 percent.



**2002 Census of Agriculture  
County Profile  
United States Department of Agriculture, North Carolina Agricultural Statistics Service**

**Avery, North Carolina**

**Ranked items among the 100 state counties and 3,078 U.S. counties, 2002**

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Rank	Universe <sup>1</sup>
<b>MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)</b>					
Total value of agricultural products sold	27,877	61	100	1,783	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	27,531	27	100	925	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	346	96	99	2,978	3,070
<b>VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)</b>					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	-	-	98	-	2,871
Tobacco	314	70	86	348	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	55	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	162	76	100	1,461	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	96	54	99	1,264	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	8,976	13	96	288	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	17,970	1	68	3	1,774
Other crops and hay	12	97	100	2,996	3,046
Poultry and eggs	-	-	95	-	2,918
Cattle and calves	266	76	99	2,871	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	-	-	64	-	2,493
Hogs and pigs	-	-	90	-	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	1	93	98	2,912	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	76	55	91	2,017	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	51	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	3	54	85	2,223	2,727
<b>TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves	1,416	83	99	2,874	3,059
Horses and ponies	267	68	99	2,693	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	175	83	95	2,538	2,983
All Goats	45	93	99	2,582	2,971
Colonies of bees	29	58	84	1,605	2,392
<b>TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)</b>					
Cut Christmas trees	6,835	2	69	7	1,877
Nursery stock	1,629	2	90	52	2,129
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	1,062	84	100	2,878	3,059
Short-rotation woody crops	206	8	75	271	1,262
Tobacco	91	70	86	346	563

**Other County Highlights**

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	87	Farming	302
\$1,000 to \$2,499	57	Other	193
\$2,500 to \$4,999	49		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	47	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	74	Male	471
\$20,000 to \$24,999	24	Female	24
\$25,000 to \$39,999	41		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	23	Average age of principal operator (years)	53.8
\$50,000 to \$99,999	52		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	21	All operators <sup>2</sup> by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	9	White	704
\$500,000 or more	11	Black or African American	-
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	15,499	American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Average per farm (\$)	31,312	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	10,155	Asian	-
Average per farm (\$)	20,515	More than one race	-
		All operators <sup>2</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	17

(D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown. See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

<sup>1</sup> Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.

<sup>2</sup> Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.